

considerable — probably sufficient to form a certain amount of fine suspended matter.

How much of the suspended matter in the Hooker River is liberated from the melting *névé*, or how much originates from the attrition of the fragments that are carried along by the fast-flowing stream, or from ice-erosion of the glacier rocky bed, is indeterminate. At any rate, Dr. Marshall has neglected to take into account some obvious sources of suspended matter, other than ice-erosion. For that reason I am unable to regard his tests as a trustworthy basis for the computation of the rate of ice-erosion of the Hooker and Mueller Glaciers.

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ART. XXIX.—*On a New Species of Coral from the Lower Oamaruan Tuffs near Deborah, Oamaru.*

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Plate XXVII.

Family OCULINIDAE Milne-Edwards and Haime.

Genus OCULINA Lamarek.

*Oculina oamaruensis* sp. nov.

CORALLUM dendroid, branches cylindrical or subcylindrical, from 1 cm. to 3 cm. in thickness; calices circular; diameter of calices from 3 mm. to 5 mm.; calices usually from two to three diameters apart, but in a few cases less than one diameter on young branches; in axial direction calices show a tendency to be disposed in regular spirals. The margins of the calices are slightly raised; in some cases they may project as much as 2 mm. The cavity of the calice is shallow. Only casts were available for examination, and as the material forming the casts is somewhat coarse in texture the septa are not well preserved, and hence cannot be numbered. For the same reason the pali teeth are obscure. The columella appears to be well developed.

*Locality.*—From bed of calcareous tuff overlying pillow-form basaltic lava at old quarry on north bank of Awamoa Creek, half a mile north of Deborah railway-siding.

*Geological Horizon.*—The calcareous tuff lies about 45 ft. below the Oamaru stone. It therefore belongs to the Waiarekan stage of the Oamaruan.

*Age.*—Probably Lower Miocene or Oligocene. This is the first recorded occurrence of the genus *Oculina* in New Zealand. The Oamaruan species appears to be almost identical with *O. mississippiensis* (Conrad), 1900, from the Vicksburgian Oligocene of the Lower Mississippi. It may be noted that *Oculina mississippiensis* (Conrad), 1900 = *Madrepora mississippiensis* Conrad, 1847; *Oculina americana* Milne-Edwards and Haime, 1857; and *Dendrophyllia mississippiensis* Conrad, 1866.